



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/603,945	06/25/2003	Johannes Kroitzsch	071308.0441	3123

31625 7590 02/25/2005

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.  
PATENT DEPARTMENT  
98 SAN JACINTO BLVD., SUITE 1500  
AUSTIN, TX 78701-4039

EXAMINER

TWEEL JR, JOHN ALEXANDER

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2636

DATE MAILED: 02/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/603,945

Applicant(s)

KROITZSCH ET AL. 

Examiner

John A. Tweel, Jr.

Art Unit

2636

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 June 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 2-10 and 12-18 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 11 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☒ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/17/03.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Priority*

1. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in Germany on 7/4/02. It is noted, however, that applicant has not filed a certified copy of the 102 30 098.4 application as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b). Only the 102 29 465.8 application has been received.

### *Specification*

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:
- Page 4, Line 21: The word "signals" should be singular to agree with the article "a".
  - Page 6, Line 13: The word "signals" should be singular to agree with the article "a".
  - Page 7, Line 21: There is an extra period at the end of this sentence.
  - Page 8, Line 15: The specification mentions a "receiver" antenna; however, elsewhere in the disclosure the antenna is called a "receive" antenna.
  - Page 11, Line 2: It appears a word such as --been-- should be inserted before "shown" for grammatical correctness.
  - Page 11, Line 18: The reference number "nine" should be in numerical form.
  - Page 12, Line 7: The phrase in this line should read --as a rule--.
- Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Objections***

3. Claims 1 and 11 are objected to because of the following informalities:
- Claim 1, Line 9: A comma is needed after the word “produces” to set off the parenthetical phrase.
  - Claim 1, Line 14: The word “signals” should be singular to agree with the article “a”.
  - Claim 11, Line 4: The verb “positioned” should read --positioning--.
  - Claim 11, Line 9: The word “signals” should be singular to agree with the article “a”.

Appropriate correction is required.

4. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

As noted above.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Plenty of tire parameter measuring devices exist that operate on a radio transmitter to send information to a central unit. The method for monitoring vehicle-tire pressures taught by **Uhl et al** teaches just such a unit. However, there is no mention of a receive antenna comprising a directional characteristic positioned in such a way in the vehicle that produces receive signals of different power in each case for at least two of the transmit units in conjunction with an evaluation unit which compares the receive power of the received signal with stored threshold values or ranges of values assigned to one wheel position and assigns the received signal to a wheel position, if the threshold value is exceeded or the receive power lies within the range of values assigned to this wheel position.

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

**Barabino** [U.S. 4,186,377] emits coded sound signals from a signal generator to distinguish from background noise.

**Betts** [U.S. 4,210,898] uses piezoelectric transducers that are deflected with each wheel revolution.

**Becherer et al** [U.S. 6,591,668] includes at least one sensor device arranged on each axle.

Art Unit: 2636

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John A. Tweel, Jr. whose telephone number is 571 272 2969. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 10-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeff Hofsass can be reached on 571 272 2981. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JAT  
2/21/05



JOHN TWEEL  
PRIOR EXAMINER